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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1964

NORHAM AND ISLANDSHIRES RURAL DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1964

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1964

To the Chairman and Members of the Norham & Islandshires Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of Norham & Islandshires Rural District Council for the year 1964.

The statistical section shows a considerable increase in the birth rate (59 births were registered compared with 43 in the previous year), and it is satisfactory to record that there were no infant deaths during 1964.

There was however, an increase in the overall death rate, however, the level in the previous year was well below the average, and the rise in 1964 is of the kind that is expected when small numbers, with their inevitable yearly fluctuations are considered.

The established pattern, where more than half the deaths were due to heart disease and vascular lesions of the nervous system, prevailed. The other major cause of death being malignancy.

Of the infectious diseases, only 10 instances of measles were recorded and there were two cases of food poisoning. It is satisfactory to see that again, there are no notifications of tuberculosis during the year.

The immunisation and vaccination rate, against the major infectious diseases continues at a fairly satisfactory level.

In my previous report, I drew attention to the condition of the layby at Haggerston, which, with increasing traffic during the summer months has become progressively more offensive. It is therefore satisfactory to note that action has been proposed and the County Council

has accepted the need to provide a toilet at this site, and more important, is that the principle is now established and leads the way to clean up other laybys on trunk roads.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation of the help I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Council and from the Council staff during the year.

I am
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district was 47,011 acres.

The number of inhabited houses was 1,339 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 6.

The rateable value was £88,586. and the sum represented by a penny rate was £338.

The estimated mid-year population was 3,880 and this figure was taken when calculating the birth and death rate.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	26	30	56
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Totals	27	32	59

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	15.20
Crude Birth Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor	19.15
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	5.08

Still Births			
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	-	2	2

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	32.78
Total live and still births	61

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)			
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rates	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	-
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	-
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate	
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	-

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate	
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	-

Perinatal Mortality Rate	
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	-

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	
Number of deaths	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	-

Deaths	Males	Females	Total
	20	27	47

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	12.11
Crude Death Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor	11.14
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	-
Deaths from Other Puerperal Causes	-
Deaths from Cancer	4

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	1	1
" " Lung, Bronchus	-	-	-
" " Breast	-	-	-
" " Uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	2	3
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	7	4	11
Coronary Disease, Angina	4	5	9
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1	1
Other Heart Disease	2	6	8
Other Circulatory Disease	-	-	-
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Bronchitis	1	-	1
Other diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	5	7
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All Other Accidents	-	1	1
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of War	-	-	-
Totals	20	27	47

INFANT MORTALITY

N I L

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever	-
Whooping Cough	-
Diphtheria	-
Measles	10
Pneumonia	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-
Enteric Fever	-
Erysipelas	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Dysentery	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Smallpox	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Food Poisoning	2
Encephalitis	-

TUBERCULOSIS

There were no notifications of tuberculosis during the year.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

North No. 1 and 2 Areas

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1964.

	Number of Persons
Three doses - Oral Vaccine	1,040
Booster dose oral after two Salk injections	34
Booster dose oral after three Salk injections	1,179
Booster dose oral after three Oral doses	125

IMMUNISATION

	Primary Immunisations								Secondary (Reinforcing) Injections							
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5/9	10/14	Total	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5/9	10/14	Total
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Diphtheria and Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	17	-	22
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus	15	21	2	-	-	-	-	38	-	2	6	6	1	11	-	26
Totals	15	21	2	-	-	-	-	38	-	2	8	8	2	32	-	52

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

North No. 1 Area

	Number Vaccinated During Period						Number Re-vaccinated					
District	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
Berwick M.B.	8	41	16	4	-	69	-	-	1	1	-	2
Belford R.D.	1	28	8	-	-	37	-	-	1	1	-	2
Glendale R.D.	37	13	6	4	-	60	-	-	2	1	-	3
Norham R.D.	3	11	8	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	49	93	38	8	-	188	-	-	4	3	-	7

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1964

To the Chairman and Members of the Norham & Islandshires Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year 1964.

WATER SUPPLIES

For about three years now, the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company has been responsible for almost all the water supplied in the District Council Area. The quality of the water has been good, sufficient quantity maintained throughout, and speedy attention to "bursts or breakdowns" is ever foremost in the Company's mind.

SEWERAGE

Sewerage and Sewage works at Holy Island, Cornhill and Scremerston have worked quite well throughout the year, but Public Health nuisances exist at Norham, Horncliffe (at Wathen Fishery) and East Ord (Mill Burn). It is still considered desirable that new sewage disposal works be installed in these three places.

PLANS

There were 52 plans deposited during the year, together with the necessary applications under the Town and Country Planning Act and Local Byelaws. Of these applications 50 were approved and 2 refused.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (2)	All other premises (3)	Total of Cols. 1,2 and 3. (4)	Agricultural (5)
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	4	1475	248	1727	132
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	-	26	20	46	-
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act.	4	750	150	904	91
4. Total number of properties inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	Many inspections and small treatments carried out all the year round by workmen of the Refuse Collection Service, the driver being a trained operator.				
5. Total inspections carried out including reinspections	15	900	180	1095	95
6. Number of infested premises treated by Local Authority	4	51	2	57	-
7. Total treatments carried out including retreatments	7	146	4	157	-

This has been a good year for Rodent Control. Sewer treatment results were very pleasing.

WATER SAMPLES

Collected for Analysis

	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Chemical	1	1	-
Bacteriological	1	1	-

HOUSING

Six new houses were completed during the year, four with state assistance and two unaided.

STATISTICS FOR 1964

Total number of inhabited houses in District	1339
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority	300

CLOSING AND DEMOLITION

	No. of Houses
1. Houses demolished in Clearance Area	-
2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Area	7
3. Houses closed not demolished	1

REPAIRS

Houses made fit

1. By informal action	6

CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

Number of unfit houses in Clearance Programme remaining to be dealt with at end of year	10

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

(1) Discretionary Grants

(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority during year	14
(b) Applications rejected	-
(c) Applications approved	14
(d) Approximate average grant approved per house	£325. 10. 0d.
(e) Total number of houses approved for grant since inception of scheme	263

(2) Standard Grants	During the year	Total to date
(a) Number of separate houses for which grants have been made	2	19

CARAVAN PARKS

Situated at Haggerston and East Ord. Both were established, and admirably conducted by the respective owners.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Number of factories throughout the area	28
Inspections carried out	28
Contraventions found	-

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

One private licenced slaughterhouse at Norham. Condition of slaughterhouse, food preparation premises and shop is excellent.

Animals slaughtered -	Steers	166
	Sheep and Lambs	184

REFUSE COLLECTION

Collection is made to each house once per fortnight. This, though considered a meagre service, nevertheless raised few complaints. However, it is considered that some thought should be given for a weekly collection to be inaugurated in 1966. This would mean the purchase of another vehicle and the employment of two more men.

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR

Complaints and nuisances	6
Disinfection and disinfestation	4
Factories	28
Food premises - Food and Drugs Act, 1955	29
Houses - Insanitary	22
Ice Cream premises	11
Rodent Infested premises	42
Slaughterhouse - Meat Inspection	156

Caravan Sites	14
Water supplies	10
Notifiable Diseases	2
Improvement Grants	58
Council House Repairs	151
Building Byelaws	49
Storage of Petroleum	24
Town and Country Planning Act	50
Refuse Collection and Disposal	39
Sewage works and sewerage	175

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

A. N. SENIOR

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

52, Ravensdowne,
BERWICK UPON TWEED
29th May, 1965.